

GREENSBORO PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING Wednesday, March 9th at 5:00 pm

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Chair Emily Linden, Susan Henshall, Scott Neely, Marsha Glazman, Anthony Izzard, Cheskesha Cunningham-Dockery, Jeff Smith

STAFF PRESENT

Nasha McCray, Kobe Riley, Charles Jackson, Shawna Tillery, Haley Wilson, Tony Royal, Kali Summers, Sue Congelozi, Jasia Stevenson

OTHERS PRESENT

None

WELCOME

The regular meeting of the Greensboro Parks and Recreation Commission was held in person at Barber Park Event Center. Commission Chair Emily Linden called the meeting to order at 5:10 pm.

Nasha McCray, Director, welcomed the Commission and attendees.

CONSENT ITEMS

Approval of Minutes from the February Commission Meeting- Commissioner Dockery made a motion to approve the February 2022 meeting minutes and Commissioner Henshall seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

RECOGNITIONS

- A. New Hires and Promotions- Kobe Riley, Deputy Director, recognized Tony Royal for his promotion to Park Operations Division Manager. Tony began his career with the Parks and Recreation Department in 1996, serving in multiple roles that have contributed to and created positive changes for the Department and community. His diverse experience in park operations will serve the Department well as we continue to implement Plan2Play and respond to recreational needs of our community.
- B. Staff Recognitions- Kobe Riley, Deputy Director, recognized Jasia Nelson, Greensboro Youth Council Director, who was selected as a Runner Up winner for the 2021 Employee Innovation Awards for Greensboro Youth Council's (GYC) Vent Sessions. The annual awards recognize City of Greensboro employees who have devised innovative and impactful solutions that improve City's services or productivity. Jasia, along with former GYC Chair Iman Khan, then a high school senior, suggested providing teens a chance to voice their concerns, stresses, and make connections as the COVID-19 pandemic eliminated or significantly reduced those opportunities. Khan and Nelson created structured monthly virtual sessions and featured topics such as wellness, current events,

and academic challenges. Some 80 teens participated in six sessions, with reports that they felt less alone and more supported during the pandemic.

STAFF REPORTS

A. CIP Planning process- Shawna Tillery, Planning and Project Development Division Manager, provided a brief overview of the CIP planning process and an update of the unfunded and funded projects included in the adopted FY 2022-32 CIP. At the April 13, 2022 Commission meeting, staff will briefly review and request approval of the FY 2023-2032 CIP. If approved by the Commission at the April meeting, the Department's CIP will be submitted to City's Budget and Evaluation Department for further review and to City Council for consideration and inclusion in the City's FY 2022-23 Annual Operating Budget.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Mobile Food Unit Policy Proposal- Shawna Tillery, Planning and Project Division Manager; Sue Congelosi, Country Park Manager; and Kali Summers, Systems Support Specialist presented a new Mobile Food Unit Policy proposal to allow this offering at parks, gardens, and lakes. With the expansion of food truck popularity, limited access to food options in multiple areas across the community, and new/expanded park development within the parks system, the department has proposed a new policy and reservation process for vendors interested in locating at these facilities. The policy outlines the purpose, fees, and requirements, while the Department's existing recreation management software will be used to manage online reservations. The phased implementation will become effective April 1, 2022 with Regional Parks, and will expand in 2023 to Botanical Gardens and in 2024 at the City's Lakes.

Commissioner Henshall asked if a vendor chose to pay and reserve an entire week or more of usage at a Park, would they be allowed to do so.

Kali Summers, Systems Support Specialist, responded that as long as the vendor pays the fee up front, they can reserve as many times as they would like.

Commissioner Dockery made a motion to approve the Mobile Food Unity Policy and Reservation Process. Commissioner Neeley seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Nasha McCray gave an update on upcoming programs and events. She also let Commissioners know that the newest version of Greensboro Parks and Recreation Facts and Figures is available and printed in their packets. The Facts and Figures are a great asset to Commissioners, as it is a comprehensive summary of Greensboro Parks and Recreation parklands and trails throughout the City and by Council District.

Director McCray also provided the following updates of note: The department is conducting an Aquatics Facility Master Plan. This plan will help shape the future of pools, spraygrounds, and aquatic recreation in Greensboro. Please take a moment to share your voice by participating in a brief survey using the link Haley sent you earlier today.

Summer Camp Registration opened March 1 for Recreation Centers, All Star Sports Camp, Campy Joy, Xtreme Teen Adventure Camp, GYC Service Learning Camp, and Counselor in Training. Recreation Center camps are full and raising the registration numbers by 10 each week.

The Guilford Courthouse Reenactment of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse will take place March 12, 10 am to 5 pm, and 13, 10 am to 3 pm. We are getting closer to the 250 year celebration of the American Revolution (2026). Come and enjoy the battle reenactment at 2 pm both Saturday and Sunday, and learn more about the major role the Battle of Guilford Courthouse had in the American Revolution.

The 2nd Annual Chalk Walk will be held March 26 and 27 at the Greensboro Arboretum. Registration is open to artists.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Neely: Good to see everyone in person and to visit the Barber Park Event Center.

Henshall: Thanked staff and stated that she sent out the Aquatics survey for others to take.

Linden: Thanked staff for a great in person meeting.

Izzard: Had reached out to staff about Caldcleugh. The Southside reunion coming up in May.

Smith: Appreciated the thought put into the mobile food truck policy and initiative.

With no further business, Commission Chair Linden adjourned the meeting at 6:08 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Haley Wilson, Executive Assistant Greensboro Parks and Recreation Department